

Appln. No.: 09/987,848
Amendment dated October 27, 2005
Reply to Office Action of June 30, 2005

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) A method of exchanging messages using a commonly accessible message board, the method comprising:
on a user interface screen, presenting a user with one or more predefined messages, and simultaneously presenting the user with a text entry field in which the user can enter a user-defined message; and
receiving an input from the user selecting one of said predefined messages as a message for posting on said message board.
2. (Currently Amended) A method according to claim 1, further comprising posting said selected message on said message board.
3. (Currently Amended) A method according to claim 2, wherein said posting of said selected message on said message board includes sending said selected message to at least one other user.
4. (Currently Amended) A method according to claim 3, wherein said sending said selected message to at least one other user comprises transmitting said data corresponding to said selected message over a communications network.
5. (Currently Amended) A method according to claim 3, wherein said sending said selected message to at least one other user comprises transmitting said data corresponding to said selected message over the ~~internet~~Internet.
6. (Currently Amended) A method according to claim 3, wherein said sending said selected message to at least one other user comprises transmitting said data corresponding to said selected message over a telecommunications network.

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7. (Currently Amended) A method according to claim 3, wherein said sending said selected message to at least one other user comprises transmitting data corresponding to said selected message as a short message service (SMS) message.

8. (Currently Amended) A method according to claim 3, wherein said sending said selected message to at least one other user comprises transmitting said data corresponding to said selected message over a local area network.

9. (Original) A method according to claim 1, wherein said presenting said user with said one or more predefined messages comprises outputting graphical representations of said predefined messages to a display.

10. (Original) A method according to claim 9, wherein said outputting said graphical representations comprises displaying selectable icons using a graphical user interface.

11. (Currently Amended) A method according to claim 10, wherein each of said selectable icons include ~~includes~~ text of a respective message to be posted to said message board.

12. (Original) A method according to claim 10, wherein said selecting said one of said predefined messages includes locating a focus on a one of said selectable icons.

13. (Currently Amended) A computer ~~program~~ readable medium storing computer executable instructions for performing the method according to claim 1.

14. (Currently Amended) An electronic device for exchanging messages using a commonly accessible message board, the device configured to simultaneously present a user with one or more predefined messages and a text box for receiving a user-defined message, and to receive an input from the user selecting one of said predefined messages as a message for posting on said message board.

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15. (Currently Amended) A device according to claim ~~13~~14, ~~which is comprising~~ a computer.

16. (Currently Amended) A device according to claim ~~13~~14, ~~which is comprising~~ a mobile communications device.

17. (Currently Amended) A device according to claim ~~15~~, ~~which is~~ 16, comprising a mobile telephone handset.

18. (Currently Amended) A method of exchanging text messages comprising:
receiving a message; and
responding to the message by:

(a) selecting a predefined message and sending ~~it~~ the selected predefined message,
and thereafter

(b) composing a non-predefined message and sending ~~it~~ the composed non-
predefined message.

19. (Currently Amended) A method according to claim 18, wherein said sending of
said messages ~~comprise~~ comprises sending said messages to another user.

20. (Currently Amended) A method according to claim 18, wherein said sending of
said messages ~~comprise~~ comprises posting said messages to a commonly accessible message
board.

21. (Currently Amended) A computer readable medium storing computer executable
instructions ~~program~~ for performing the method according to claim 18.

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22. (Currently Amended) An electronic device for exchanging text messages, the device configured:

to receive a message; and

to respond to the message by permitting the user to select a predefined message and send it the selected predefined message, and thereafter compose a non-predefined message and send-it the composed non-predefined message.